



00862.002906.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
: Examiner: D. Tran
KAZUYOSHI SUMIUCHI)
: Group Art Unit: 2624
Application No.: 09/342,926)
:
Filed: June 30, 1999)
:
For: IMAGE PROCESSING)
: APPARATUS AND METHOD : Monday, May 9, 2005

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the below-listed documents are enclosed.

JP 7-021356
JP 8-138030
JP 10-173951
JP 9-193477
EP 0 605 892

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

May 9, 2005
(Date of Deposit)

Frank L. Cire, Reg. No. 42,419
(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

Signature

May 9, 2005
Date of Signature

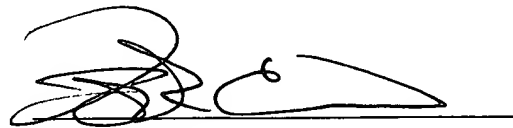
These documents were cited during prosecution of a Japanese patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the Japanese Office Action is currently not available, but will be forwarded to the USPTO as soon as it comes to hand.

English-language abstracts for all of the Japanese documents except JP 7-021356 are enclosed. In this regard, EP 0 605 892 is believed to be an English-language counterpart of JP 7-021356.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with a Request For Continued Examination, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank L. Cire', is written over a horizontal line.

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